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72 Local Eateries Recognized for Commitment to Food Safety

The Lewis and Clark City-County Health Department on Thursday recognized 72 local food establishments for their exceptional efforts to make, serve, and sell safe food to the public.

Public health sanitarians presented 8 Gold and 64 Silver Fork Awards during the regular meeting of the City-County Board of Health. Award winners are listed below. This is the third year the health department has given the awards and the first in which there has been more than one Gold Fork winner.

“We’re pleased that eight facilities will be recognized with the Gold Fork Award,” said Laurel Riek, environmental health specialist with the health department. “It’s challenging to establish and use all components of an effective food safety system. These facilities have demonstrated that system.”

To be eligible for an award, a food establishment must offer sit-down dining and have been open for at least a year. In 2012, there were 198 eligible facilities. The awards are based on the results of unannounced inspections conducted by sanitarians last year.

To win a Gold Fork Award, a food establishment must demonstrate that it practices all four components of an effective food safety system.

Those components are:

- on-site managers who demonstrate knowledge of food safety and take corrective action when necessary;
- ongoing monitoring of food temperatures;
- food safety training for all employees; and
- policies and procedures that make food safety a priority.

To win a Silver Fork Award, an establishment can have no more than one or two minor risk-factor violations discovered during an inspection, and it must have implemented at least three of the food-safety system components. An example of a minor risk factor might be food stored at a temperature only a few degrees warmer than required.

“Facilities are working hard to set food safety systems in place that protect their customers,” Riek said. “This award recognizes that effort. Every year more facilities are receiving an award or taking another step closer to implementing that food safety system.”

For more information, contact the health department at 443-2584 or healthinfo@co.lewis-clark.mt.us.

Gold Fork Awards Winners:

- Helena High School
- Helena Middle School
- Intermountain Children’s Home
- Lincoln School Project for Alternative Learning
- Shodair Residential Treatment Center
- Smith School
- Sodexo (School District 1 food service)
- St. Peter’s Community Hospital

Silver Fork Award Winners:

- 12 West Supper Club and Catering
- Arby’s Restaurant
- Augusta Dinner Club, Augusta
- Augusta School, Augusta
- Benny’s
- Buffalo Wild Wings
- Bullman’s Wood Fired Pizza
- Burger King, 2820 Prospect
- C Bar N Mission, Augusta
- Capital High School Cafeteria
- Captain Jack’s Restaurant
- Central School
- Costco Food Court
- C.R. Anderson Middle School
- Dairy Queen, 1500 Prospect
- Day’s Inn
- East Valley Middle School, East Helena
- Eastgate School, East Helena
- Four Georgians School
- Great Northern Hotel Banquet Kitchen
- Hardee’s, 1919 E. Custer
- Hardee’s, 320 Euclid
- Hawthorne School
- Helena Dinner Club, Neighborhood Center
- Hunters Pointe Retirement Residence
- Jefferson School
- Jim Darcy School

- Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches
- Kessler School
- Lazy B Bar and Cafe, Augusta
- Lincoln School, Lincoln
- Lucca's
- Mackenzie River Pizza Co.
- Marci's Catering, 111 N. Sanders
- Marci's Catering, 1400 Broadway
- Masonic Home of Montana
- McDonald's, 3060 N. Montana
- McDonald's, 1901 Prospect
- Mediterranean Grill
- Montana Nugget Casino
- Murry's Takeout
- No Sweat Cafe
- Papa John's Pizza
- Perkin's Restaurant and Bakery
- Pizza Hut, 2955 Prospect
- Pizza Hut, 3267 N. Montana
- Radley School
- Ray Bjork Learning Center
- Romano's Macaroni Grill
- Rossiter School
- Sara's Blue Ribbon Porkies
- Silver Star Steak Co.
- Steve's Cafe
- Subway, 616 Lola St.
- Subway, 1350 Cedar St.
- Subway, 1822 E. Custer Ave.
- Taco Bell
- Taco del Sol
- Taco John's, 1450 Prospect
- Taco Treat
- Target Food Avenue Express
- Warren School
- Wendy's Old-Fashioned Hamburgers
- Wolf Creek School